

Appln No. 10/047,127

Amdt date November 13, 2003

Reply to Office action of August 13, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-47 are pending. Claims 16 is amended to correct a typographical error. A legible copy of the Rogers article "Telcos vs. Cable TV: The Global View is enclosed with an Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO/SB/08A/B. It is respectfully requested that the above-mentioned article be considered in the examination of the pending claims. A copy of the priority document, U.S. App. No. 08/537,650, filed on Oct. 2, 1995 that was lost by the Office, is enclosed for Examiner's convenience. Also, copies of the following three documents "Using Starsight 2", "Starsight Interactive Television Program Guide, Phase III", and "Starsight Interactive Television Program Guide, Phase IV", incorporated by reference on Page 29, lines 6-14 of the Specification, are enclosed with an Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO/SB/08A/B.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because they do not reference the following reference signs mentioned in the description: 52 (page 9, line 19), 54 (page 9, line 20), 60 (page 9, line 26), 62 (page 10, line 12), 64 (page 9, line 23), 50 (page 12, line 11), 431 (page 18, line 6), 524, 526 (page 22, line 13), 700 (page 29, line 2), 714 (page 30, line 29), 718 (page 30, line 22), 762 (page 32, line 19), 770 (page 32, line 36).

FIGs. 8, 14B, and 14E are amended to include some of the missing references. The Specification is also amended to correct some of the mentioned references. Also, FIG. 2 (which

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is part of the U.S. Pat. No. 5,353,121, incorporated by reference on Page 6, line 13 of the specification) was unintentionally included as the FIG. 2 described in detail in the Specification. This figure is replaced by the original FIG. 2 in the priority document (U.S. App. No. 08/537,650, filed on Oct. 2, 1995, a copy of which is enclosed). The descriptions on pages 9, line 11 to page 11, line 4 describe the enclosed FIG. 2 which was unintentionally omitted from this application. No new matter is added. Applicants respectfully request that FIG. 2 of the present application be replaced by the enclosed FIG. 2. In view of the above amendments and the enclosed FIG. 2, it is respectfully requested that the above-mentioned objections be withdrawn.

The drawings are objected to because the following reference signs are not mentioned in the description: 39, 40 (Figure 1), 24, 26, 28, 56, 58, 122 (Figure 2), 434, 460 (Figure 7). Reference no. 460 is mentioned on page 18, line 33. The Specification is amended to correct the remaining omitted references. In view of the above amendments and the enclosed FIG. 2, it is respectfully requested that the above-mentioned objections be withdrawn.

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply because numerous reference characters have been used to designate both components of the system (Figure 1) and sections of the EPG (Figure 2). Reference character "10" has be used to designate both the computer system (Figure 1) and a portion of the EPG (Figure 2). Reference characters "30" has been used to designate both the television system (Figure 1) and a portion of

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the EPG (Figure 2). Reference characters "34" and "36" have been used to designate both the VCRs (Figure 1) and a portion of the EPG (Figure 2). In view of the above amendments and the enclosed FIG. 2, it is respectfully requested that the above-mentioned objections be withdrawn.

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply because reference characters "732" and "732" have both been used to designate a cell in the EPG (Figure 12A) and a display screen (Figure 13A). FIGs. 13A and 13B have been amended to change the reference no. from 732 to 782. The relevant parts of the Specification have been amended to reflect these changes. In view of the above amendments, it is respectfully requested that the above-mentioned objections be withdrawn.

Specification

The Specification is objected to because of informalities. The specification is amended to correct all the informalities. The Specification is also, objected to because of an embedded hyperlink. It is respectfully submitted that the exemplary "resource locator address, 'HTTP://www.invoice.com'" is not a hyperlink, but just an example of how a server is addressed in a "world wide web." In view of the amendment to the Specification, it is respectfully requested that the above-mentioned objections be withdrawn.

The Specification is also objected to because the incorporation by reference of US Patent Application No. 08/423,411 appears to be incorrect. Since at this time, the correct US Patent Application could not be identified, the

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Specification is amended to remove the references to the above-mentioned Application. In view of the amendment to the Specification, it is respectfully requested that the above-mentioned objections be withdrawn.

Claims

Claim 16 is objected to because of a typographical error. Claim 16 is amended to correct the typographical error. In view of this amendment, it is respectfully requested that the above-mentioned objections be withdrawn.

Claims 24 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written specification. Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are supported by the written description and that the claimed "second database" is not the same as the claimed "second storage device." For example, video on demand is stored in and accessed from the "second database," and then stored on the "second storage device." Support for the above example is provided on page 32, line 17 to page 33, line 2 of the specification, among others. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the above-mentioned rejections be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 3, 6, 8-13, 20-22, 24-25, 27, 30, 32-34, and 40-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lawler, et al (US Pat No. 5,585,838). Claims 2, 4-5, 7, 23, 26, 28-29, 31, and 42-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lawler et al (US Pat No. 5,585,838). Claims 14-16 and 35-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lawler et al (US Pat No. 5,585,838) in

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view of Knee et al (US Pat No. 5,589,892). Claims 17-18 and 37-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lawler et al (US Pat No. 5,585,838), in view of Lawler (US Pat No. 5,758,259). Claims 19 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lawler et al (US Pat No. 5,585,838), in view of Harrison (US Pat No. 5,694,163). Applicant submits that all of the claims currently pending in this application are patentably distinguishable over the cited references, and reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Independent claims 1, 16, 25 and 40 include, among other limitations, a database electrically coupled to a first network; a television tuner, a display monitor, a storage device, an input device, and a processor electrically coupled to a second network.

There is no teaching or suggestion in Lawler for a television tuner, a display monitor, a storage device, an input device, and a processor electrically coupled to a second network, as required by independent claims 1, 16, 25 and 40.

Lawler (in FIGs. 1 and 2) describes a viewer station 16 including "an interactive station controller 18, a video display 20, and a user input device 22." (Col. 5, lines 12-14). FIG. 2 of Lawler depicts a block diagram of a viewer station 16. The viewer station "includes an interactive station controller 18 which is sometimes referred to as a set top box, at least one video display 20 such as a television, and an input device 22 such as an infrared remote control. Although it is shown distinct from video display 20, the interactive station

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controller 18 could alternatively be integral with video display." (Col. 7, lines 8-14).

From the above description and figures, it is clear that the viewer station of Lawler is an integrated system that is not networked. At most, the controller 18 may be a set top box, the video display may be a television, and the input device may be a remote control.

In contrast the claimed invention is a networked viewer system that includes a database electrically coupled to a first network for storing television schedule information; a television tuner electrically coupled to a second network, wherein the second network is in communication with the first network; a display monitor electrically coupled to the second network; a storage device electrically coupled to the second network for storing television programs; an input device electrically coupled to the second network for receiving user inputs; and a processor electrically coupled to the second network programmed for accessing the database to display a portion of the television schedule information on the display monitor, as recited, for example, in claim 1. In fact, by emphasizing a viewer station, Lawler teaches away from a networked viewer system. As a result, none of the cited references, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the above limitations, required by the independent claims 1, 16, 25 and 40. Thus the independent claims 1, 16, 25 and 40 are not obvious in view of the cited references.

Dependent claims 3, 27, and 43 further limit the claimed second network to a home network. There is no mention of a

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home-networked viewer system in Lawler. Again, by emphasizing a viewer station, Lawler teaches away from a home-networked viewer system.

In short, the independent claims 1, 16, 25 and 40 define a novel and unobvious invention over the cited references. Dependent claims 2-5, 17-24, 26-39 and 41-47 are dependent from claims 1, 16, 25 and 40 respectively and therefore include all the limitations of their respective independent claims and additional limitations therein. Accordingly, these claims are also allowable over the cited references, as being dependent from allowable independent claims and for the additional limitations they include therein.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, and accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By



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626/795-9900

RRT/clv

CLV PAS535894.1--11/13/03 10:56 AM



Replaced by enclosed FIG. 2
 FIG. 2

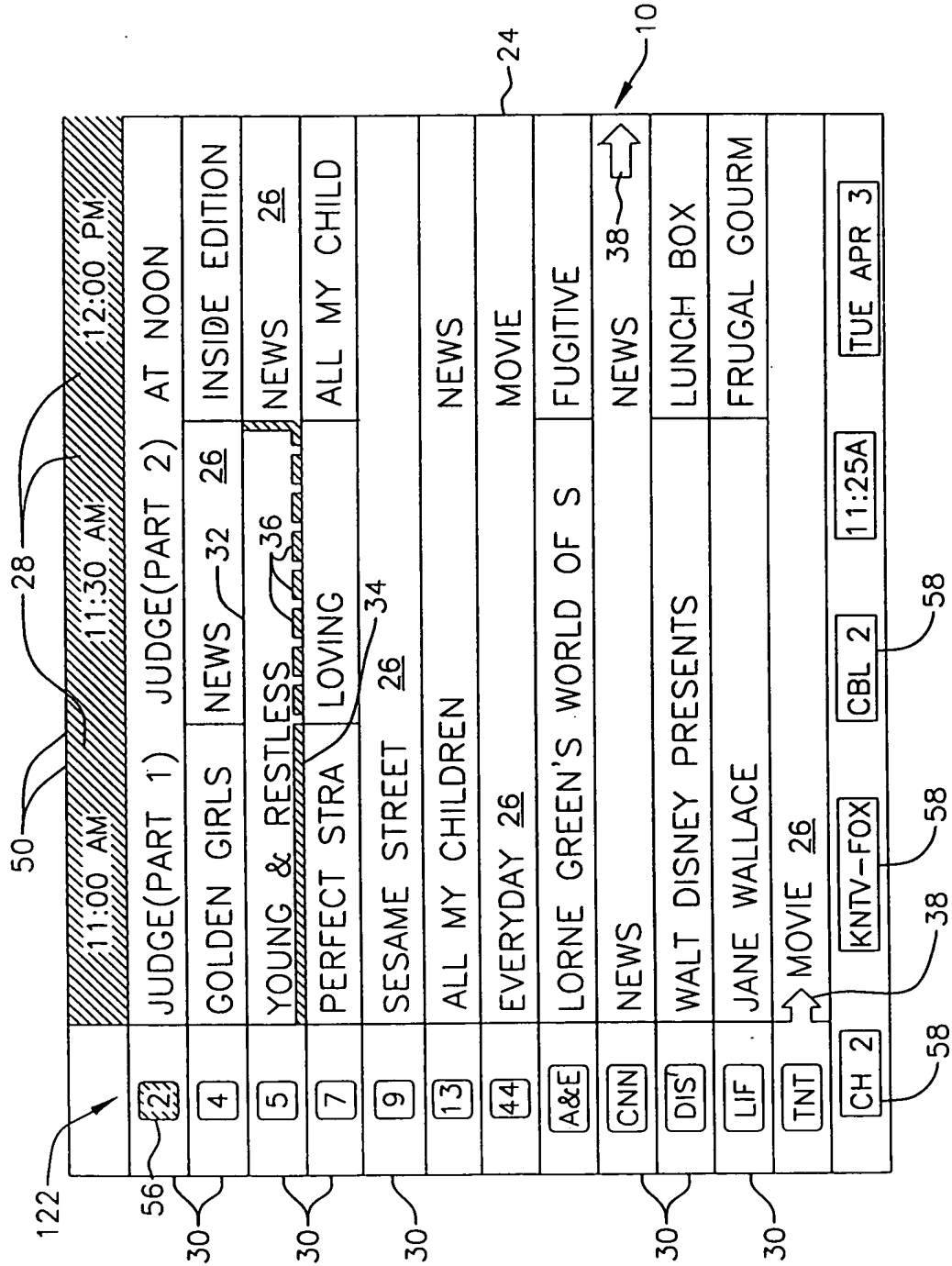




FIG. 8

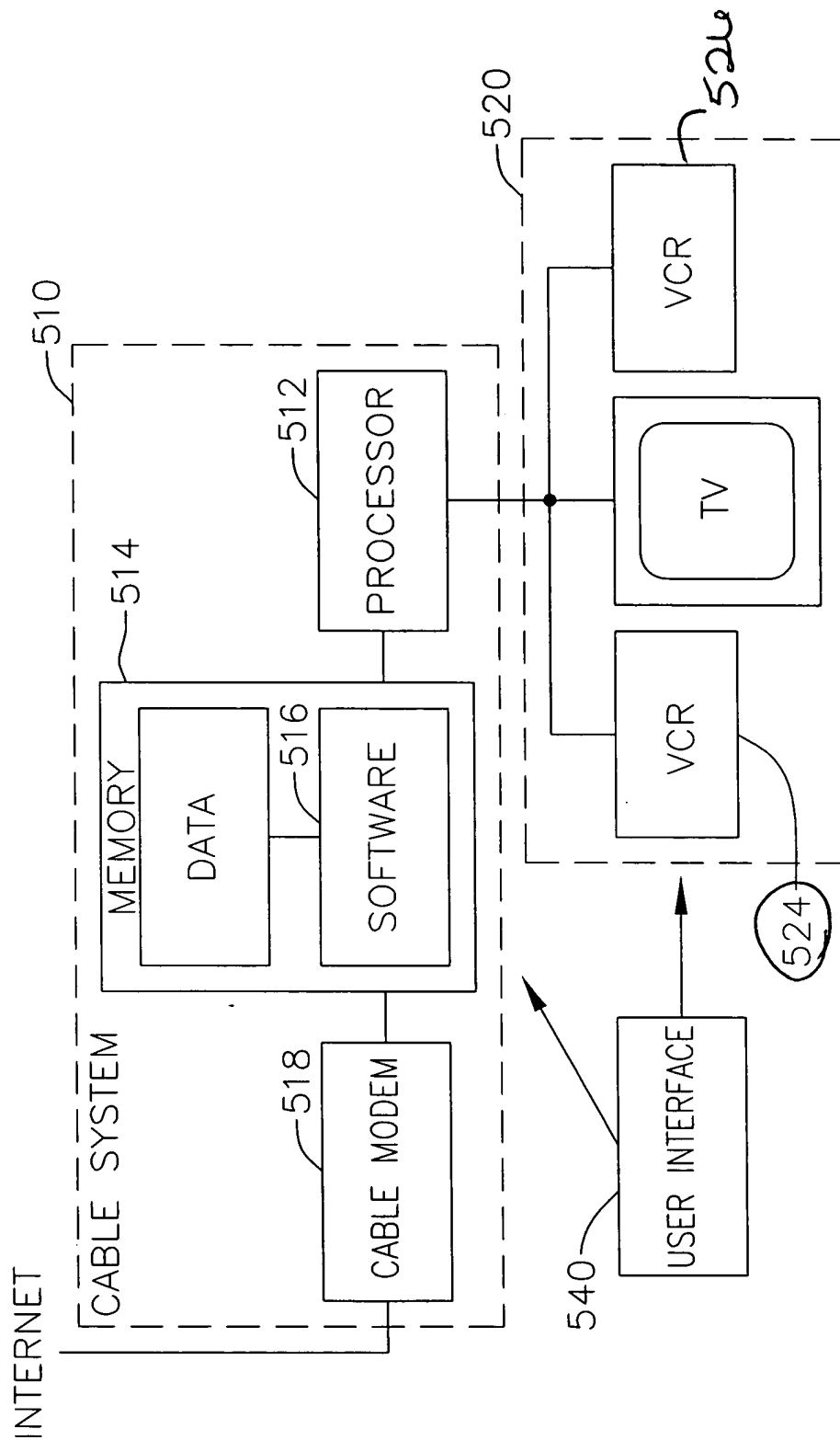




FIG. 13A

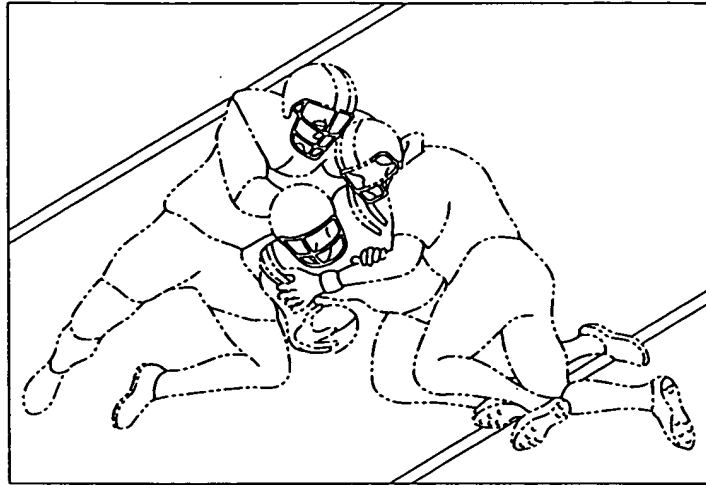


FIG. 13B

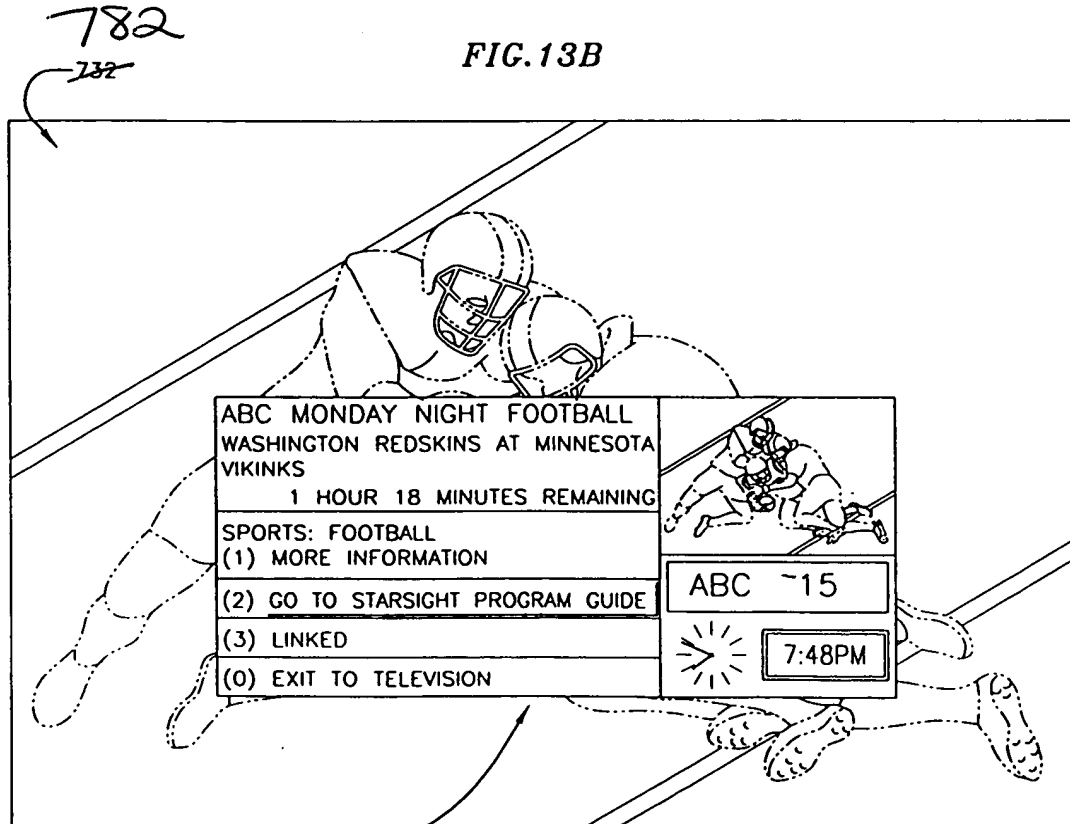




FIG. 14A

-HOURS	
MOVIES: DRAMA	
(1) MORE INFORMATION	
(2) TUNE TO THIS CHANNEL NOW	
(3) RECORD THIS PROGRAM	
(4) PUT THIS PROGRAM ON MY FAVORITES LIST	
(5) REMIND ME WHEN THIS PROGRAM AIRS	
(6) RESTRICT ACCESS TO THIS PROGRAM	
(7) LINKED SERVICE	
(0) GO BACK TO PROGRAM GUIDE	

FIG. 14B

MOVIES: DRAMA	
(1) MORE INFORMATION	
(2) \$ ORDER MOVIE WHEN YOU LIKE...	
(3) \$ HBO INTERVIEW: BRAD PIT	
(4) A HOPKINS "REMAINS OF THE DAY"	
(5) \$ UNIVERSAL PICTURES ONLINE...	
(6) \$ UNIVERSAL STUDIOS FAMILY TICKET OFFER	
(<) BACK TO PREVIOUS MENU	
(0) GO BACK TO PROGRAM GUIDE	

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FIG. 14E

LEGENDS OF THE FALL
THREE SONS OF A RETIRED ARMY OFFICER RETURN
FROM WORLD WAR 1 TO PURSUE VERY DIFFERENT LIVES.
ANTHONY HOPKINS, BRAD PITT, JULIA ORMOND.
VIDEO ON DEMAND PRICE-\$3.95

MOVIES: DRAMA
(1) MORE INFORMATION

YOUR ORDER CONFIRMED !
12.15.95 OR.#950384383 IT.#346VOOL
ACCOUNT 234.95430 PURCHASE: \$3.95

(2) OK (BACK TO PREVIOUS MENU)
(3) GO TO YOUR LIST OF PURCHASES

(0) GO BACK TO PROGRAM GUIDE

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FIG. 15A

▷	PROGRAM GUIDE	
▷	CHANNEL GUIDE	
	VIDEO ON DEMAND	
7	RECORDINGS	
8	FAVORITES & REMINDERS	
9	PARENTAL CONTROLS	
10	THEMES & SEARCHES	
11	WORLD OF SERVICES	
12	MESSAGES	
13	SETUP & UTILITIES	
14		
15		
16		

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